FEB 0 7 2003 W

PATENT

Attorney Docket No. DKT00127

3/4/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Tada

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Appln. No.:

09/880,174

Filed:

June 13, 2001

For:

BLADE TENSIONER

Group

Art Unit:

3682

Examiner:

Vicky A. Johnson

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this

date.

01/30/03

Date

Joh A. Birmingkarn Registration Mo. 51,222 Attorney for Applicant

AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231 RECEIVED

FEB 1 3 2003

GROUP 3600

Dear Sir:

This amendment is responsive to an Office Action dated July 30, 2002. Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 1, 7-12, 18, and 21 with the following amended claims 1, 7-12, 18, and 21:

1. A blade tensioner for applying tension to a chain, the blade tensioner comprising:

a blade shoe having a first face and an opposing second face, the first face having a chain sliding surface on which the chain is slidable;